

REMARKS - General

By the above amendment, Applicant has amended the claims to define the invention more particularly and distinctly so as to overcome the technical rejections and define the invention patentably over the prior art.

The Rejection of Claims 1-4 and 21-24 under 35 U.S.C. 101:

Claims 1-4 and 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 4-8 and 13-15 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,713,512.

Applicant has amended the claims so that they are no longer coextensive in scope.

The Rejection of Claims 21-26 under 35 U.S.C. 112:

Claims 21-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 because the Examiner states that the specification, while being enabling for cancer cell proliferation, does not reasonably provide enablement for all cell proliferation.

Applicant respectfully disagrees. Example 14 of the instant specification illustrates the anti-cell proliferation activity of the hydroquinone substituted polyunsaturated fatty acids through their inhibition of Protein Kinase C activity. Protein Kinase C is an 80kDa enzyme recruited to the plasma membrane by diacylglycerol and, in many cases, by calcium. The enzyme is activated by diacylglycerol and phospholipid and is thought to undergo a conformational change upon binding to the membrane. Protein Kinase C transduces the cellular signals that promote lipid hydrolysis. Protein Kinase C phosphorylates a variety of target proteins which control growth and cellular differentiation. The phosphorylation of these proteins is part of many normal cellular growth and differentiation processes within the cell and is not specifically, nor exclusively, linked to cancer cell proliferation. Protein Kinase C activity is not linked solely to cancer cell proliferation. The antioxidants of the present invention inhibit Protein Kinase C activity. Therefore, inhibition of Protein Kinase C by the antioxidants

of the present invention is not solely limited to cancer cell proliferation. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits the specification is enabling for general cell proliferation and should not be limited to cancer cell proliferation.

Allowance of Claims 7-20

Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the allowance of Claims 7-20.

Objection of Claims 5-6, 25-26

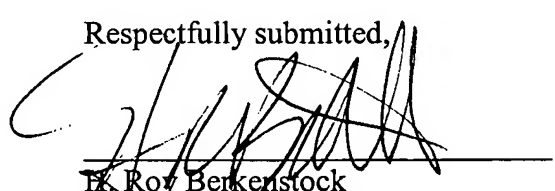
Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's objection of Claims 5-6, and 25-26 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, they are now dependent upon an amended claim that includes the appropriate limitations. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of these claims.

CONCLUSION:

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the claims are now in proper form, and that the claims all define patentably over the prior art. Therefore, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action they respectfully solicit.

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Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Amendment, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 4, 2005.



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